

the Prime Minister leaves the House, it will lessen the importance of this Bill.

You please get it moved by him. . . (Interruptions). I am on a point of order. If the Prime Minister moves this Bill, it will add to its importance. You please get it moved by the Prime Minister.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : You may speak later on.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I am addressing the Hon'ble Speaker, and not you. . . (Interruptions) Is there any restriction even on speaking ? . . . (Interruptions) I can at least make my submission . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : You can make your submission.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to react.

**(xxviii) Need to take steps to check the pollution of the Desang river in Assam caused by certain Industrial Units**

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat) : It is a matter of great concern that in spite of the fact that the Supreme court is seized of the pollutions of all sorts perpetrated by the industries, a few industries including public sector undertakings still pollute the sources of drinking water in a defiant way by pouring out the effluents and wastes to the river system, particularly in Assam. To mention a particular case, the Namrup Fertilizers Limited, a Government of India Undertaking, has been merrily polluting the river Desang, a major Tributary of river Brahmaputra. As a result, people living in a 50 Kilometre radius in Siosagar District of my Lok Sabha Constituency, Jorhat cannot use water for drinking. It is a tragic sight that thousands of people living on both the banks of the river are deprived of the natural source of water. To add to their woes, resource crunch of Government stands in the way of making available alternative source of water by installing deep tube wells. Either funds should be provided to the Fertilizer Units for installing effective recycling plants and other effective mechanism or they should be asked to close down. Even other public sector oil industries like ONGC and IOC are equally responsible not only for polluting water sources but also adversely affecting vegetable production, paddy fields and sericulture farming. I urge upon the Government to ask an expert environment organisation like NEERI to probe into this rampant pollution

or order these industries to take corrective measures.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I am on a point of convenience, If you assure us that you are adjourning the House *sine die* after matters under Rule 377, we will have the convenience to leave.

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot say that now. It is a matter of a few more minutes. Many hon. Members, whose names are here, are absent.

**(xxix) Need to Mitigate the Hardships of Visa Holders Visiting Jaisalmer and Barmer in Rajasthan**

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent district Jaisalmer and Barmer which are situated in Western Rajasthan along the Pakistan boarder. During the 1947 partition, a number of families of this area were separated. Also during the 1965 and 1971 conflict, a number of people had migrated from India to Pakistan and vice versa.

I would like to congratulate the UF Government and the then External Affairs Minister Shri I.K. Gujral for liberalising the visa policy under which both the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan had agreed that the citizens of both these countries will be permitted to visit their respective relatives on either side of the border.

I am sorry to point out that the visas issued to the relatives of the inhabitants of my area i.e., Jaisalmer and Barmer, are permitted and restricted only to Jodhpur city. This restriction has been enforced by Pakistan Embassy for the two to three months only. Jodhpur city is around 300-350 km away from the actual villages and hamlets where they wish to visit.

The very purpose of their getting visas to look up their near relations is defeated. This is causing not only mental but also financial hardships of the people of my area. The affected visa holders are not only Muslims but Hindus are also included. I agree that certain areas which are sensitive and next to the border may be excluded from the visas of visiting relatives. But the restriction to stop them 300-400 km before their actual place of destination is not justified.

Therefore, I strongly recommend to the Government of India that this aspect as mentioned above may be looked into and the visas be issued in such a way so as to avoid all hardships to visiting relatives.